

FDDI AIST Verbal Ability

Sample Paper – 6

Duration: 30 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 30

Instructions

- This paper contains **30** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the Verbal Ability section of **FDDI AIST**.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is **no negative marking** for incorrect or unattempted answers.
- Only **one** option is correct per question.
- Topics covered: Synonyms & Antonyms, Vocabulary, Sentence Completion, Grammar, Idioms, One Word Substitution, Active & Passive Voice, Prepositions.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

Q1. Choose the word closest in meaning to **INSOLENT**.

- (A) Humble
- (B) Impudent
- (C) Polite
- (D) Respectful

Q2. Choose the word closest in meaning to **PROFUSE**.

- (A) Abundant
- (B) Scarce
- (C) Limited
- (D) Insufficient

Q3. Choose the word most nearly **OPPOSITE** in meaning to **OPULENT**.



- (A) Wealthy
- (B) Lavish
- (C) Affluent
- (D) Destitute

Q4. Choose the word most nearly **OPPOSITE** in meaning to **RIGID**.

- (A) Stiff
- (B) Inflexible
- (C) Supple
- (D) Hard

Q5. Choose the word closest in meaning to **ECLECTIC**.

- (A) Narrow
- (B) Diverse
- (C) Uniform
- (D) Exclusive

Q6. Choose the word most nearly **OPPOSITE** in meaning to **PARSIMONIOUS**.

- (A) Generous
- (B) Thrifty
- (C) Economical
- (D) Stingy

Q7. Choose the meaning of **OSTRACIZE** as used in the sentence:

*“The group decided to **OSTRACIZE** the member who had violated their trust.”*

- (A) Welcome warmly
- (B) Support wholeheartedly
- (C) Congratulate publicly



(D) Exclude from a group or society

Q8. The word **OMINOUS** most closely means:

- (A) Cheerful and positive
- (B) Irrelevant and trivial
- (C) Threatening and warning of something bad
- (D) Calm and reassuring

Q9. The word **CRYPTIC** most closely means:

- (A) Open and transparent
- (B) Having a hidden meaning; mysterious
- (C) Simple and direct
- (D) Cheerful and obvious

Q10. **AMBIGUOUS**, in the context of instructions, means:

- (A) Open to more than one interpretation; unclear
- (B) Clear and precise
- (C) Detailed and thorough
- (D) Firm and decisive

Q11. Choose the option that best explains the meaning of the underlined word in the sentence:

“Her resilient spirit helped her overcome every obstacle in her career.”

- (A) Fragile
- (B) Brittle
- (C) Able to recover quickly from difficulties
- (D) Easily discouraged



Q12. Choose the option that best fills the two blanks:

“The textile industry must _____ to changing trends while maintaining the _____ of traditional craftsmanship.”

- (A) resist ... destruction
- (B) adapt ... quality
- (C) object ... decline
- (D) respond ... negligence

Q13. Choose the word that best fills the blank:

“The new collection was _____ received by critics and fashion enthusiasts alike.”

- (A) Poorly
- (B) Barely
- (C) Reluctantly
- (D) Enthusiastically

Q14. Choose the grammatically correct word to fill the blank:

“Despite the harsh criticism, she _____ to complete the project with full dedication.”

- (A) Continued
- (B) Continuing
- (C) Continue
- (D) Continuation

Q15. Choose the option that best fills the two blanks:

“The mentor was _____ with her student, which is why her students always _____ exceptional results.”

- (A) careless ... failed
- (B) impatient ... achieved poor
- (C) thorough ... achieved



(D) lenient . . . ignored

Q16. Choose the word that best fills the blank:

“The artisan’s work reflected _____ attention to every stitch, button, and hem.”

(A) Complete absence of

(B) Meticulous

(C) Total disregard for

(D) Surprising neglect of

Q17. Identify the grammatically **CORRECT** sentence:

(A) The data collected by the researchers were analysed and a report have been submitted.

(B) She has been working in this company since the last three years.

(C) The committee have decided to postpone their meeting until further notice.

(D) The manager, along with his team, was present at the inauguration ceremony.

Q18. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:

“She was (A) one of the only designer who (B) managed to present (C) a fully sustainable collection. (D) No error”

(A) one of the only

(B) managed to present

(C) a fully sustainable collection.

(D) No error

Q19. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:

“The fashion house (A) announced that it (B) will be launching (C) a new line of exclusive collections. (D) No error”



- (A) announced that it
- (B) will be launching
- (C) a new line of exclusive fabrics, one of which are made entirely from bamboo fibre.
- (D) No error

Q20. Identify the grammatically **CORRECT** sentence:

- (A) The news about the factory closure were shocking to the workers.
- (B) Each of the samples submitted by the vendors has been carefully evaluated.
- (C) Either the manager or his assistants is responsible for the error.
- (D) Mathematics are my favourite subject in school.

Q21. The idiom “**kill two birds with one stone**” means to:

- (A) Cause harm to multiple people at once
- (B) Waste time on unrelated tasks
- (C) Create two problems while solving one
- (D) Accomplish two things with a single action

Q22. The idiom “**every cloud has a silver lining**” means:

- (A) Every difficult situation has some positive aspect
- (B) Bad weather always leads to good weather
- (C) Success comes only after great effort
- (D) Material wealth brings happiness

Q23. The idiom “**don’t judge a book by its cover**” means:

- (A) Books should always have attractive covers
- (B) Reading is the best way to judge a person
- (C) Do not form opinions based on outward appearances alone



(D) External beauty is more important than inner qualities

Q24. The idiom “**put all your eggs in one basket**” means:

- (A) To distribute your resources wisely
- (B) To rely on a single plan or option, risking everything on it
- (C) To carry things carefully to avoid breakage
- (D) To invest only in proven opportunities

Q25. A person who completely abstains from alcoholic drinks is called a:

- (A) Celibate
- (B) Ascetic
- (C) Hermit
- (D) Teetotaller

Q26. An animal that feeds exclusively on the flesh of other animals is called a:

- (A) Carnivore
- (B) Herbivore
- (C) Omnivore
- (D) Scavenger

Q27. The practice of having more than one wife at the same time is called:

- (A) Monogamy
- (B) Celibacy
- (C) Polygamy
- (D) Bigamy

Q28. Choose the correct passive voice form of the sentence:

“The committee will announce the results tomorrow.”

- (A) The results are announced by the committee tomorrow.



- (B) The results will be announced by the committee tomorrow.
- (C) The committee is announcing the results tomorrow.
- (D) The results were announced by the committee tomorrow.

Q29. Which of the following sentences is **NOT** in the passive voice?

- (A) The trophy was presented by the chief guest.
- (B) The machines are serviced regularly by the technicians.
- (C) The order had been placed before the deadline.
- (D) The technician repaired the faulty equipment.

Q30. Choose the correct preposition to fill the blank:

“She has a natural flair _____ fashion illustration.”

- (A) for
- (B) in
- (C) at
- (D) with



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution**

Quick Solution: INSOLENT means showing a rude and arrogant lack of respect. IMPUDENT is its closest synonym, meaning shamelessly bold or disrespectful.

Concept: “Insolent” derives from Latin *insolens* (unaccustomed, arrogant). It describes behaviour that is offensively disrespectful and lacking in basic courtesy.

Steps:

- “Insolent” = rudely disrespectful, contemptuous of authority or norms.
- (A) Humble = modest and respectful — the direct antonym of insolent.
- (B) **Impudent** = offensively bold and disrespectful; shameless. ✓
- (C) Polite = courteous and well-mannered — the antonym of insolent.
- (D) Respectful = showing deference and courtesy — another antonym.

Why other options are wrong: Options A, C, and D all describe courteous, respectful behaviour, which is the opposite of what “insolent” conveys. Only “impudent” shares the core sense of shameless, rude boldness.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 1](#)

Q2.**Solution**

Quick Solution: PROFUSE means produced or existing in large amounts; plentiful. ABUNDANT is the closest synonym, meaning present in great quantity.

Concept: “Profuse” comes from Latin *profusus* (poured forth). It is used to describe something given or occurring in generous, plentiful amounts — as in “profuse apologies” or “profuse bleeding.”

Steps:

- “Profuse” = existing in very large quantities; generous and copious.
- (A) **Abundant** = present in large quantities; more than enough. ✓
- (B) Scarce = insufficient in supply; rare — a direct antonym of profuse.
- (C) Limited = restricted in size or amount — an antonym.
- (D) Insufficient = not enough — an antonym.



Why other options are wrong: B, C, and D all describe a shortage or restriction in quantity, which is the opposite of the plentiful meaning conveyed by “profuse.”

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 2](#)

Q3.

Solution

Quick Solution: OPULENT = rich and luxurious; possessing great wealth. Its antonym is **DESTITUTE** = extremely poor, lacking even basic necessities.

Concept: “Opulent” derives from Latin *opulentus* (wealthy). It describes great wealth and lavish surroundings. The antonym must describe the opposite extreme of poverty and want.

Steps:

- Opulent = very wealthy, sumptuous, luxurious.
- (A) Wealthy = a synonym of opulent, not its antonym.
- (B) Lavish = a synonym (spending freely, luxuriant) — not the antonym.
- (C) Affluent = another synonym (having abundant wealth).
- (D) **Destitute** = without the basic necessities of life; utterly impoverished.
✓

Why other options are wrong: A, B, and C are all synonyms of “opulent,” describing wealth and luxury. Only “destitute” stands at the opposite end of the economic spectrum.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 3](#)

Q4.

Solution

Quick Solution: RIGID = unable to bend; fixed and unyielding. Its antonym is **SUPPLE** = flexible, able to bend easily without breaking.

Concept: “Rigid” describes something that does not yield under pressure or change — whether describing a physical material or a person’s thinking. Its antonym must convey flexibility and ease of movement.

Steps:

- Rigid = not flexible; stiff and unmoving.



- (A) Stiff = a synonym of rigid (not easily bent).
- (B) Inflexible = a direct synonym of rigid.
- (C) **Supple** = bending and moving easily; flexible. ✓
- (D) Hard = resistant to pressure; also a synonym in the physical sense.

Why other options are wrong: A, B, and D all carry the same essential meaning as “rigid” (unyielding, stiff, hard). Only “supple” conveys the quality of easy flexibility that is the direct opposite.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 4](#)

Q5.

Solution

Quick Solution: ECLECTIC = deriving ideas, style, or tastes from a broad and varied range of sources. **DIVERSE** is the closest synonym, meaning showing a great deal of variety.

Concept: “Eclectic” comes from Greek *eklektikos* (selective). An eclectic taste or approach draws on many different sources, making diversity its defining characteristic.

Steps:

- “Eclectic” = selecting from various sources; wide-ranging in variety.
- (A) Narrow = limited in range or scope — the antonym of eclectic.
- (B) **Diverse** = showing a great deal of variety; wide in range. ✓
- (C) Uniform = the same throughout; lacking variety — an antonym.
- (D) Exclusive = limited to a select group; restrictive — an antonym in this context.

Why other options are wrong: A, C, and D all imply restriction, uniformity, or narrowness in scope, which directly contradicts the broad, varied nature of “eclectic.”

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 5](#)



Q6.

Solution

Quick Solution: PARSIMONIOUS = excessively unwilling to spend money; extremely miserly. Its antonym is **GENEROUS** = willing to give freely and abundantly.

Concept: “Parsimonious” comes from Latin *parsimonia* (frugality). It describes an excessive degree of reluctance to spend even when spending is appropriate. The antonym must describe the opposite willingness to give.

Steps:

- Parsimonious = extremely mean with money; miserly.
- (A) **Generous** = freely giving more than is necessary or expected. ✓
- (B) Thrifty = careful with money but not miserly — a milder synonym of parsimonious.
- (C) Economical = avoiding waste; careful in spending — also a near-synonym.
- (D) Stingy = unwilling to spend; another synonym of parsimonious.

Why other options are wrong: B, C, and D all describe carefulness or unwillingness to spend, making them synonyms rather than antonyms. Only “generous” captures the opposite spirit of free giving.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 6](#)

Q7.

Solution

Quick Solution: OSTRACIZE means to exclude someone from a society or group. In the sentence, the group *excluded* the member who violated their trust — making **exclude from a group or society** the correct answer.

Concept: The word “ostracize” originates from ancient Athenian democracy: citizens voted to banish a person by writing their name on an *ostrakon* (pottery shard). Today it means to deliberately exclude someone from a community or group.

Steps:

- Context clue: a member “violated their trust” — the group’s response is rejection, not support.
- (A) Welcome warmly = the opposite of ostracizing.



- (B) Support wholeheartedly = also the opposite of the intended meaning.
- (C) Congratulate publicly = entirely inappropriate given the violation of trust.
- (D) **Exclude from a group or society** = the precise meaning of ostracize. ✓

Why other options are wrong: A, B, and C all describe positive, welcoming actions that are the direct opposite of the exclusion that “ostracize” denotes.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 7](#)

Q8.

Solution

Quick Solution: OMINOUS = giving the impression that something bad or unpleasant is going to happen; **threatening and warning of something bad**.

Concept: “Ominous” derives from Latin *omen* (a sign foretelling the future). An ominous sign, cloud, or silence suggests that trouble or danger lies ahead. It always carries a foreboding, threatening quality.

Steps:

- “Ominous” = foreboding; suggesting approaching danger or evil.
- (A) Cheerful and positive = the direct opposite of ominous.
- (B) Irrelevant and trivial = unrelated to foreboding or warning; an antonym.
- (C) **Threatening and warning of something bad** = the core meaning of ominous. ✓
- (D) Calm and reassuring = again the direct opposite.

Why other options are wrong: A, B, and D all describe qualities of lightness, irrelevance, or calm reassurance — all of which are opposed to the dark, threatening sense that “ominous” carries.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 8](#)



Q9.

Solution

Quick Solution: CRYPTIC = having a meaning that is mysterious or obscure; difficult to understand. The best match is **having a hidden meaning; mysterious**.

Concept: “Cryptic” comes from Greek *kryptos* (hidden). A cryptic remark, cross-word clue, or message conceals its meaning and requires effort to decode. It is the opposite of being straightforward or transparent.

Steps:

- “Cryptic” = intentionally obscure; concealing its meaning.
- (A) Open and transparent = the direct antonym of cryptic.
- (B) **Having a hidden meaning; mysterious** = precisely what “cryptic” means. ✓
- (C) Simple and direct = another antonym — cryptic messages are neither.
- (D) Cheerful and obvious = both qualities are antonyms of cryptic.

Why other options are wrong: A, C, and D all describe clarity, directness, or obviousness — qualities that are the direct opposite of the concealed, puzzling nature of “cryptic.”

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 9](#)

Q10.

Solution

Quick Solution: AMBIGUOUS = open to more than one interpretation; not having a single clear meaning. In the context of instructions, it means **open to more than one interpretation; unclear**.

Concept: “Ambiguous” derives from Latin *ambiguus* (shifting, doubtful), from *ambi-* (both ways). Ambiguous instructions can be understood in multiple ways, causing confusion about what is actually required.

Steps:

- “Ambiguous” = capable of being understood in more than one sense; unclear.
- (A) **Open to more than one interpretation; unclear** = the exact definition. ✓
- (B) Clear and precise = the direct antonym of ambiguous.
- (C) Detailed and thorough = describes thoroughness, not ambiguity.



- (D) Firm and decisive = another antonym; decisive implies no ambiguity.

Why other options are wrong: B, C, and D all describe qualities of clarity and decisiveness — the opposite of the multiple-meaning confusion that “ambiguous” describes.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 10](#)

Q11.

Solution

Quick Solution: RESILIENT = able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions. The correct meaning is **able to recover quickly from difficulties**.

Concept: “Resilient” comes from Latin *resilire* (to spring back). In the context of a person’s spirit, it means the ability to bounce back from setbacks, challenges, or adversity without being permanently affected.

Steps:

- Resilient = recovering swiftly from hardship; tough and adaptable.
- Context: “helped her overcome every obstacle” confirms strength and recovery.
- (A) Fragile = easily broken or damaged — the direct antonym of resilient.
- (B) Brittle = hard but liable to break easily — also an antonym.
- (C) **Able to recover quickly from difficulties** = the precise meaning. ✓
- (D) Easily discouraged = again the direct antonym; resilient people are not easily discouraged.

Why other options are wrong: A, B, and D all describe weakness or susceptibility to damage, which is the opposite of the strength and recovery capacity that “resilient” conveys.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 11](#)



Q12.

Solution

Quick Solution: The textile industry must **adapt** to changing trends while maintaining the **quality** of traditional craftsmanship. Option B is the only logically and contextually consistent pair.

Concept: The sentence describes a balance between embracing change and preserving value. The first blank requires a positive response to change; the second blank requires something worth maintaining.

Steps:

- First blank: “must _____ to changing trends” — needs a positive, proactive response.
- Second blank: “maintaining the _____ of traditional craftsmanship” — needs a positive quality worth preserving.
- (A) resist ... destruction — “resist to trends” is grammatically odd, and “maintaining destruction” is illogical.
- (B) **adapt ... quality** — adapt to trends (positive response) + maintain quality (worthwhile goal). ✓
- (C) object ... decline — “object to changing trends” suggests opposition, and “maintaining decline” is illogical.
- (D) respond ... negligence — “maintaining negligence” is illogical and negative.

Why other options are wrong: A, C, and D each create a logical inconsistency or negative meaning that contradicts the constructive tone of the sentence.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 12](#)

Q13.

Solution

Quick Solution: The context — “critics and fashion enthusiasts alike” received the collection positively — calls for **enthusiastically**, meaning with great excitement and approval.

Concept: Context clues direct word choice. The phrase “alike” (shared agreement) and the general framing of the sentence suggest a uniformly positive reception. Only “enthusiastically” conveys the high level of approval implied.

Steps:



- Context: the collection was received by *both* critics and enthusiasts — universally positive.
- (A) Poorly = negative reception — contradicts the implied approval.
- (B) Barely = only just; suggests lukewarm reception — not consistent with enthusiasts.
- (C) Reluctantly = unwillingly; suggests grudging acceptance — unlikely from enthusiasts.
- (D) **Enthusiastically** = with great energy and eagerness; warmly welcomed. ✓

Why other options are wrong: A describes negative reception, B implies minimal approval, and C suggests unwillingness — none of which fits a collection admired by both critics and fashion lovers.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 13](#)

Q14.

Solution

Quick Solution: The blank follows the subject “she” in a simple past tense sentence. The correct form is the simple past **continued**.

Concept: The sentence is in the simple past tense (“despite the harsh criticism” is a past concession). The verb in the main clause must agree in tense and form: subject + simple past verb.

Steps:

- Sentence structure: “she _____ to complete” — needs a finite verb in simple past.
- (A) **Continued** = simple past of “continue”; “she continued to complete” is grammatically correct. ✓
- (B) Continuing = present participle; cannot serve as the main finite verb here.
- (C) Continue = base form; used with auxiliaries (e.g., “she will continue”), not as a standalone past verb.
- (D) Continuation = a noun; cannot function as the verb of the sentence.

Why other options are wrong: B is a non-finite participle, C is the uninflected base form, and D is a noun — none can serve as the main past-tense verb required



in this structure.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 14](#)

Q15.

Solution

Quick Solution: The causal connector “which is why” links the mentor’s quality directly to the students’ outcomes. **Thorough ... achieved** is the only pair that creates a logical cause-and-effect relationship.

Concept: “Which is why” signals a cause-and-effect relationship: the mentor’s trait (first blank) directly produces the students’ results (second blank). The pairing must be logically consistent and positive.

Steps:

- Cause (first blank): a quality of the mentor.
- Effect (second blank): students’ achievement of exceptional results.
- (A) careless ... failed — a careless mentor logically leads to failure, but “exceptional results” contradict “failed.”
- (B) impatient ... achieved poor — “achieved poor results” is grammatically awkward and logically inconsistent with “exceptional.”
- (C) **thorough ... achieved** — a thorough mentor naturally leads to students who achieve exceptional results. ✓
- (D) lenient ... ignored — a lenient mentor whose students ignore results is inconsistent with “exceptional results.”

Why other options are wrong: A and D create logical contradictions with “exceptional results.” B is both grammatically awkward and semantically inconsistent.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 15](#)



Q16.

Solution

Quick Solution: The context — “every stitch, button, and hem” — signals extreme care for detail. **Meticulous** is the only option that correctly describes this quality of careful, precise attention.

Concept: Context clues identify the required word. An artisan who attends to every individual stitch, button, and hem is demonstrating “meticulous” care — great precision and thoroughness in small details.

Steps:

- Key context: “every stitch, button, and hem” = comprehensive attention to minute detail.
- (A) Complete absence of attention — would mean the work showed *no* care; contradicts the skilled artisan context.
- (B) **Meticulous** = showing great attention to detail; very careful and precise. ✓
- (C) Total disregard for attention — the opposite of what an artisan’s careful work implies.
- (D) Surprising neglect of attention — also contradicts the quality implied by craftsmanship.

Why other options are wrong: A, C, and D all describe a lack of care or attention, which directly contradicts the detailed, skilled craftsmanship described in the sentence.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 16](#)

Q17.

Solution

Quick Solution: D is the grammatically correct sentence. “The manager, along with his team, was present” correctly uses a singular verb because “along with” is a parenthetical phrase that does not change the singular subject.

Concept: When a subject is followed by “along with,” “together with,” or “as well as,” the verb agrees with the original subject (not the added phrase). Each of the other options contains a subject-verb agreement error.

Steps:

- (A) “... a report **have** been submitted” — “a report” is singular; should be



“**has** been submitted.” Incorrect.

- (B) “working . . . **since the last** three years” — correct usage is “**for** the last three years” (duration) or “since three years ago.” Incorrect.
- (C) “The committee **have** decided” — collective noun “committee” takes a singular verb; should be “**has** decided.” Incorrect.
- (D) “**The manager, along with his team, was present.**” — “manager” (singular) governs “was”; the parenthetical phrase does not alter agreement.
✓

Why other options are wrong: A has incorrect auxiliary agreement; B misuses “since” with a duration; C incorrectly treats a collective noun as plural.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 17](#)

Q18.

Solution

Quick Solution: The error is in part (A): “one of the only” is non-standard usage. The correct expression is “one of the **few**” — “only” does not collocate with this structure.

Concept: The standard English construction for this meaning is “one of the few” (meaning among a small group). “One of the only” is an informal colloquialism widely considered incorrect in formal written English; additionally, “designer” here should be “designers” (plural after “one of the”).

Steps:

- (A) **one of the only** — non-standard; correct form is “one of the **few** designers.” ✓ (Error)
- (B) managed to present — grammatically correct; simple past verb phrase.
- (C) a fully sustainable collection — correct noun phrase, no error.
- (D) No error — there is an error in part (A).

Why other options are wrong: Parts B and C are both grammatically correct. The sole error lies in the non-standard phrase “one of the only” in part A.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 18](#)



Q19.

Solution

Quick Solution: The error is in part (C): “one of which **are**” should be “one of which **is**,” because “one” is singular and requires a singular verb.

Concept: When “one of which” introduces a relative clause, the verb agrees with “one” (singular), not with the preceding plural noun. This is a common subject-verb agreement trap: “one of which **is**” (not “are”).

Steps:

- (A) “announced that it” — correct; simple past verb with pronoun subject.
- (B) “will be launching” — correct; future continuous tense appropriately used.
- (C) “... **one of which are made entirely from bamboo fibre.**” — “one” is singular; should be “one of which **is** made.” ✓ (Error)
- (D) No error — the error is present in part (C).

Why other options are wrong: Parts A and B are both grammatically correct. The error is specifically the plural verb “are” used with the singular subject “one” in part C.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 19](#)

Q20.

Solution

Quick Solution: B is the grammatically correct sentence. “Each of the samples ... has been carefully evaluated” correctly uses a singular verb with the singular indefinite pronoun “each.”

Concept: Subject-verb agreement errors occur when a writer is misled by a phrase between the subject and verb. Each incorrect option contains a specific agreement error.

Steps:

- (A) “The news ... **were** shocking” — “news” is uncountable singular; should be “**was** shocking.” Incorrect.
- (B) “**Each of the samples ... has been carefully evaluated.**” — “each” is always singular; “has been” is correct. ✓
- (C) “Either the manager or his assistants **is** responsible” — with “either ...



or,” the verb agrees with the nearer subject (“assistants,” plural); should be “**are** responsible.” Incorrect.

- (D) “Mathematics **are** my favourite subject” — “mathematics” is a singular subject; should be “**is** my favourite subject.” Incorrect.

Why other options are wrong: A mishandles uncountable nouns; C misapplies the “either... or” agreement rule; D treats a singular subject as plural.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 20](#)

Q21.

Solution

Quick Solution: “Kill two birds with one stone” means to **accomplish two things with a single action** — achieving two goals through one effort.

Concept: This idiom originates from the image of throwing one stone that strikes two birds simultaneously. Figuratively, it describes using a single effort, action, or resource to achieve two separate goals at once.

Steps:

- Literal image: one thrown stone kills two birds = one action, two outcomes.
- Figurative meaning: completing two tasks or achieving two goals with a single effort.
- (A) Cause harm to multiple people at once — misinterprets the idiom literally and negatively.
- (B) Waste time on unrelated tasks — the opposite; this idiom is about efficiency.
- (C) Create two problems while solving one — the idiom is about solving, not creating problems.
- (D) **Accomplish two things with a single action.** ✓

Why other options are wrong: A introduces a harmful connotation absent from the idiom; B describes inefficiency, which is the opposite; C inverts the constructive meaning into a negative one.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 21](#)



Q22.

Solution

Quick Solution: “Every cloud has a silver lining” means **every difficult situation has some positive aspect** — there is always something good even in the worst circumstances.

Concept: The phrase refers to the silver edge visible around a dark cloud when sunlight shines behind it. Figuratively, even the darkest, most difficult situation (the cloud) contains a hopeful or positive element (the silver lining).

Steps:

- Image: dark clouds have bright silver edges when lit from behind.
- Meaning: even bad situations contain some hope or positive element.
- (A) **Every difficult situation has some positive aspect.** ✓
- (B) Bad weather always leads to good weather — too literal; misses the figurative meaning.
- (C) Success comes only after great effort — this is a different idiom (“no pain, no gain”).
- (D) Material wealth brings happiness — entirely unrelated to the idiom.

Why other options are wrong: B interprets the idiom too literally; C confuses it with a different proverb about effort; D introduces a meaning of wealth that has no connection to the idiom.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 22](#)

Q23.

Solution

Quick Solution: “Don’t judge a book by its cover” means **do not form opinions based on outward appearances alone** — the outside may not reflect what is inside.

Concept: A book’s cover may be plain or unattractive while the content inside is excellent (or vice versa). This idiom cautions against making superficial judgments based only on how something or someone looks on the surface.

Steps:

- Literal image: a book’s external appearance does not tell you about its content.



- Figurative meaning: avoid judging people or things by their superficial appearance.
- (A) Books should always have attractive covers — misreads the idiom literally.
- (B) Reading is the best way to judge a person — confuses the metaphor with literal reading.
- (C) **Do not form opinions based on outward appearances alone.** ✓
- (D) External beauty is more important than inner qualities — the opposite of the idiom's message.

Why other options are wrong: A and B interpret the idiom too literally; D completely inverts the idiom's message, which is to value substance over surface appearance.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 23](#)

Q24.

Solution

Quick Solution: “Put all your eggs in one basket” means **to rely on a single plan or option, risking everything on it** — concentrating all resources or hope on one outcome.

Concept: If you carry all your eggs in one basket and drop it, you lose everything. The idiom warns against concentrating all resources, efforts, or hopes in one place, because failure there means total loss.

Steps:

- Literal image: putting all eggs in one basket = catastrophic loss if the basket is dropped.
- Figurative meaning: risking everything on a single plan with no backup.
- (A) To distribute your resources wisely — the opposite; this is what *not* putting all eggs in one basket means.
- (B) **To rely on a single plan, risking everything on it.** ✓
- (C) To carry things carefully to avoid breakage — too literal; misses the figurative warning.
- (D) To invest only in proven opportunities — changes the meaning; the idiom is about risk concentration, not quality of opportunity.



Why other options are wrong: A describes the opposite wise behaviour; C interprets the idiom too literally; D introduces a notion of “proven” that is not part of the idiom’s meaning.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 24](#)

Q25.

Solution

Quick Solution: A person who completely abstains from alcoholic drinks is called a **TEETOTALLER**.

Concept: “Teetotaler” (also “teetotaler”) refers to a person who practises complete abstinence from alcoholic beverages. The “tee-” prefix is an emphatic reduplication of the letter “T” in “total,” meaning “totally total” in abstinence.

Steps:

- Key definition: one who *completely* abstains from alcohol.
- (A) Celibate = one who abstains from sexual activity, not alcohol.
- (B) Ascetic = one who practises severe self-discipline, often for religious reasons; not specifically abstaining from alcohol.
- (C) Hermit = one who lives in isolation from society; unrelated to alcohol abstinence.
- (D) **Teetotaler** = one who never drinks alcoholic beverages. ✓

Why other options are wrong: A, B, and C describe other forms of self-denial or isolation that are unrelated to abstinence from alcoholic drinks specifically.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 25](#)

Q26.

Solution

Quick Solution: An animal that feeds exclusively on the flesh of other animals is called a **CARNIVORE**.

Concept: “Carnivore” comes from Latin *caro/carnis* (flesh) + *vorare* (to devour). It describes animals whose diet consists solely or primarily of meat from other animals.

Steps:



- Key definition: feeds *exclusively* on flesh of other animals.
- (A) **Carnivore** = meat-eater; feeds on the flesh of other animals. ✓
- (B) Herbivore = plant-eater; feeds only on plants (“herba” = grass/plant).
- (C) Omnivore = feeds on both plants and animals (“omni” = all/everything).
- (D) Scavenger = feeds on dead or decaying material; not exclusively a predator of living animals.

Why other options are wrong: Herbivores eat only plants; omnivores eat both; scavengers feed on carrion and do not exclusively hunt living prey — only carnivore fits the definition precisely.

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 26](#)

Q27.

Solution

Quick Solution: The practice of having more than one wife at the same time is called **POLYGAMY**.

Concept: “Polygamy” comes from Greek *polys* (many) + *gamos* (marriage). While broadly it refers to having multiple spouses, in common usage it specifically refers to having multiple wives. “Polygyny” (specifically multiple wives) is a subset, but “polygamy” is the standard answer in vocabulary exercises.

Steps:

- Key definition: having more than one wife simultaneously.
- (A) Monogamy = the practice of having only one spouse at a time (“mono” = one).
- (B) Celibacy = abstaining from marriage and sexual relations; the opposite.
- (C) **Polygamy** = the practice of having multiple spouses (especially wives). ✓
- (D) Bigamy = the crime of marrying someone while already legally married to another; limited to two spouses and carries legal implications.

Why other options are wrong: Monogamy means one spouse; celibacy means no marriage; bigamy is the illegal act of having exactly two spouses and is narrower in scope than polygamy.

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 27](#)



Q28.

Solution

Quick Solution: “The committee will announce the results tomorrow” is in the future simple active voice. The correct passive form is: **“The results will be announced by the committee tomorrow.”**

Concept: To convert future simple active to passive:

- Active object becomes passive subject.
- Passive verb = “will be + past participle.”
- Active subject becomes “by + agent.”

Steps:

- Active: “The committee [subject] will announce [future simple] the results [object] tomorrow.”
- Passive subject = “The results.”
- Passive verb = “will be announced” (future simple passive).
- Agent = “by the committee.”
- (A) “The results **are** announced” = present simple passive (wrong tense).
- (B) **“The results will be announced by the committee tomorrow.”** ✓
- (C) “The committee is announcing” = present continuous active (not passive).
- (D) “The results were announced” = past simple passive (wrong tense).

Why other options are wrong: A uses present tense; C is active voice; D uses past tense — none preserve the future tense of the original sentence.

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 28](#)

Q29.

Solution

Quick Solution: The sentence that is **NOT** in the passive voice is **D**: “The technician repaired the faulty equipment.” This is active voice — the technician (subject/doer) performs the action.

Concept: Passive voice structure: Subject (receiver of action) + *be* verb + past participle [+ by + agent].



Active voice structure: Subject (doer) + main verb + object.

Steps:

- (A) “The trophy **was presented** by the chief guest” — passive; “trophy” receives the action. Passive.
- (B) “The machines **are serviced** regularly by the technicians” — passive; “machines” receive the action. Passive.
- (C) “The order **had been placed** before the deadline” — passive; past perfect passive construction. Passive.
- (D) “**The technician repaired the faulty equipment.**” — active voice; the technician (doer) is the subject. ✓ Not passive.

Why other options are wrong: A, B, and C all use the be-verb + past participle structure that defines passive voice. D uses a simple active past tense verb with the doer as subject.

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 29](#)

Q30.

Solution

Quick Solution: The correct preposition is **for**. The standard collocation is “a flair **for**” something, meaning a natural talent or aptitude for it.

Concept: The noun “flair” (natural ability or talent) always collocates with the preposition “for” when indicating the area of talent: “a flair *for* design,” “a flair *for* languages,” “a flair *for* fashion illustration.”

Steps:

- Fixed collocation: “a flair **for**” + noun/gerund = standard English.
- (A) **for** — “a natural flair for fashion illustration” = correct and idiomatic. ✓
- (B) **in** — “a flair in” is non-standard and not an established collocation.
- (C) **at** — “a flair at” is non-standard; “good at” works for skills, but “flair” requires “for.”
- (D) **with** — “a flair with” is non-standard usage; not an accepted collocation.

Why other options are wrong: B, C, and D are all non-standard collocations with “flair.” The noun “flair” is lexically bound to the preposition “for” in standard English usage.



Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 30](#)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	B	2	A	3	D	4	C	5	B
6	A	7	D	8	C	9	B	10	A
11	C	12	B	13	D	14	A	15	C
16	B	17	D	18	A	19	C	20	B
21	D	22	A	23	C	24	B	25	D
26	A	27	C	28	B	29	D	30	A

